

Attachment 1

Symbols of Texas

State Seal: The Great Seal of the State of Texas consists of "a star of five points, encircled by olive and live oak branches, and the words, 'The State of Texas'." (State Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 19.) This design is a slight modification of the Great Seal of the Republic of Texas, adopted by the Congress of the Republic, December 10, 1836, and readopted with modifications in 1839.

State Tree: The **pecan** is the state tree of Texas. The sentiment that led to its official adoption probably grew out of the request of Governor James Stephen Hogg that a pecan tree be planted at his grave.

State Flower: The state flower of Texas is the **bluebonnet**, also called the *buffalo clover*, *wolf flower*, and "*el conejo*" (the rabbit). The bluebonnet was adopted as the state flower, on request of the Society of Colonial Dames in Texas, by the 27th Legislature, 1901. The original resolution designated *Lupinus subcarnosus* as the state flower, but a resolution (HCR 44) signed March 8, 1971, by Governor Preston Smith provided legal status as the state flower of Texas for "*Lupinus Texensis* and any other variety of bluebonnet."

State Bird: The **mockingbird** is the state bird of Texas, adopted by the 40th Legislature at the request of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs.

State Dish: **Chili** was proclaimed the Texas state dish by the 65th Texas Legislature in 1977.

State Fish: The **Guadalupe Bass**, a member of the sunfish family, was named the official state fish of Texas by the 71st Legislature in 1989.

State Gem: **Texas Blue Topaz**, the official Texas gem, is found in Llano uplift area, especially west to northwest of Mason.

State Seashell: The **lightning whelk** was adopted as the official state seashell by the 70th Legislature on April 2, 1987. One of the few shells that opens on the left side, the lightning whelk is named for its colored stripes. It is found only on the Gulf Coast.

State Motto: The state motto of Texas is "**Friendship**." The word, Texas, or Tejas, was the Spanish pronunciation of a Caddo Indian word meaning "friends" or "allies." (Acts of 1930, fourth called session of the 41st Legislature, p.105.)

State Song: The state song of Texas is "**Texas, Our Texas**." The music was written by the late William J. Marsh (who died February 1, 1971, in Fort Worth at age 90), and the words by Marsh and Gladys Yoakum Wright, also of Fort Worth. It was adopted as the result of an award offered by the Legislature.

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